U of S prof aids with discovery

Finding Canada's 30th impact crater was a "once-in-a-lifetime kind of thing" for University of Saskatchewan researcher Brian Pratt
PAGE 2

'I LOVE HIM, I'M SO SORRY'

KRISTEN STEWART MAKES PUBLIC APOLOGY FOR CHEATING ON HER TWILIGHT CO-STAR PAGE 8

REGIONAL metro®

Thursday, July 26, 2012

News worth sharing.

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Canada needs to 'embrace' being an energy power: Wall

Controversy. Pipeline debate won't overshadow other agenda items, premier says

MORGAN MODJESKI
Metro in Saskatoon

Premier Brad Wall was in Lunenburg, N.S., Tuesday as part of the annual Council of the Federation gathering, which brings together the country's premiers and territorial leaders annually.

One of the hot topics heading into this year's event is the proposed Northern Gateway Pipeline, which would run through B.C. and Alberta.

British Columbia Premier Christy Clark and Alberta Premier Alison Redford have been exchanging remarks about the environmental risks and revenue sharing of the project, with Clark making clear her position that the project will not get underway unless B.C. receives what she calls its fair share of revenue.

The controversy has caught the attention of Wall, who told Metro on Tuesday that Saskatchewan's position is to embrace the pipeline.

Quoted

"Certain interests in the country are seemingly embarrassed that we have this great resource, but as an emerging (energy) power you won't find a more responsible country."
Premier Brad Wall

"Saskatchewan will be saying it's time we embrace the fact that this country is an emerging energy power," said Wall.

"Certain interests in the country are seemingly embarrassed that we have this great resource, but as an emerging power you won't find a more responsible country amongst energy powers."

Wall also said that Clark's demand for more economic benefits from the Northern Gateway Pipeline sets a "dangerous precedent."

"We ship a lot of product out to the ports in B.C. and the royalties of Saskatchewan belong to the people of Saskatchewan, so that's where I guess we have a bit of a problem with what's being proposed," he said.

Premier Brad Wall arrives for a meeting with aboriginal leaders in Lunenburg, N.S., on Wednesday as part of the annual Council of the Federation gathering.
ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gun sales up after theatre shooting

Some in the U.S. are stocking up amid fears of increased restrictions PAGE 3

Vintage swimming looks suit all

Retro swimsuits are all over the runways , and there is a style to please every taste PAGE 10

Geological Survey of Canada geologist Keith Dewing examines shatter cones and takes notes at the newly discovered Prince Albert impact crater on northwestern Victoria Island in the western Arctic. CONTRIBUTED/BRIAN PRATT

U of S tied to discovery of Arctic impact crater

'Once-in-a-lifetime' find. Scientists say impact crater is roughly 25 km wide

MORGAN MODJESKI
morgan.modjeski@metronews.ca

A professor at the University of Saskatchewan has played an important part in the discovery of Canada's 30th known impact crater, and he says the discovery was a "once-in-a-lifetime kind of thing."

Brian Pratt, a professor in the department of geological sciences with a specialty in stratigraphy, along with researchers from the Geological Survey of Canada, made the discovery two summers ago and has now submitted their research for publication.

"It was incredibly exciting. We flew to that area and we could see there was something really weird," said Pratt, noting distinct patterning in surrounding sedimentary rocks was the team's first clue.

"When we landed the helicopter, we literally just stepped out and right there were these things called shatter cones (a unique geological feature that can only be found in impact craters), so we knew what we had," he said.

Alongside being an important geological discovery, the impact crater will also provide scientists with more information about the Earth's crusts and what kind of impact it may have had on the extinction of animals in the geological past, as these craters are very rare.

"The record of astroblemes, or impact craters, on Earth is really sparse," said Pratt.

"We're a planet that has oceans and plates, so the plates collide and the ocean crust is recycled … so we should have thousands and thousands of craters, but we don't."

Pratt said the meteorite community will be very interested with the discovery, adding how other scientists could start doing more extensive research at the site.

Peek into the past

An impact crater is a geographical feature that can be found underneath a crater itself after the initial crater has eroded away.

- Even though the impact crater was 25 kilometres wide, Pratt said the crater itself could have been twice the size and using information from the impact crater, Pratt said he'd guess the meteorite itself would have been roughly "10 km wide, maybe more."

Offer made Wednesday

Ramada Inn strike ends

Workers at Regina's Ramada Inn are expected to be back to work on Monday after a strike kept them in front of the hotel and on the picket line for more than seven weeks.

According to the Local 41 union, their bargaining team has recommended that they accept the offer presented Wednesday morning.

Among other items, the union had demanded a nine per cent wage increase over three years. Hotel management has offered eight and a half.

The Ramada also took the $55 increase in parking fees off the table, and decreased it to $10. METRO

Likely out for the year

Bagg to undergo ACL surgery

Riders receiver Rob Bagg will be undergoing surgery for a torn left ACL and will likely miss the rest of the 2012 CFL season.

Bagg had missed the 2011 season with a tear to his right ACL. METRO

Recruited workers

Irish immigrants laid off

PCL Construction laid off 50 pipefitters, 20 of whom are Irish immigrants recruited at a targeted immigration mission earlier this year.

PCL spokesman Mike Long says that the layoffs were due to an unforeseeable gap in the construction schedule.

PAT FIACCO

Mayor heads to London for the Summer Games

THE POLITICS OF BOXING

Most of Regina's citizens don't know Mayor Pat Fiacco can throw a mean right-hook.

Before becoming mayor in 2000, Fiacco was an amateur boxer. He's now in London performing the role of deputy technical director of boxing for the Summer Games.

"It's an absolute privilege and an honour. To participate in two Olympic Games is a dream," said Fiacco via email from London.

Fiacco, whose favorite boxer is Sugar Ray Leonard, also attended the 2004 Athens Olympics as a referee.

He discovered boxing 38 years ago after accepting an impromptu invitation from a friend to go check out the boxing ring.

"As soon as I set foot in the Laird Gym — the Regina Boxing Club — I knew the sport was for me. Within four weeks of training I had my first bout in Chinook, Montana," said Fiacco.

Fiacco agreed civic politics and boxing share some similarities.

"Boxing taught me to respect my opponent, and for the most part, my opponent in boxing respects you back. In civic politics, I have always respected those that oppose my point of view. I may not (always) agree with them, but I'm always respectful of them."

DORIAN GEIGER/METRO

Mayor Pat Fiacco, the Olympics' deputy technical director of boxing, poses in front of the Olympic rings at the athletes' village in London. CONTRIBUTED

Mobile news

The world's last Arctic refuge is under attack. Scan the code to see a slideshow of the vulnerable animals who live there.

LGBT

Scots legalizing gay marriage

Scotland's government has announced plans to legalize same-sex marriages.

Deputy First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said Wednesday that legislation permitting the marriages would soon be introduced.

The measure has backing from the major Scottish political parties. It follows a public consultation on the issue.

When enacted, Scotland could become the first part of the U.K. to allow same-sex marriages.

The U.K. government has conducted a public consultation on legalizing same-sex marriages, and it has the backing of Prime Minister David Cameron. But U.K. officials are waiting for the results of the public consultation before taking further steps.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. ingenuity

Use of legal synthetic drugs up

People are inventing so many new, legal ways to get high that U.S. lawmakers can't seem to keep up.

Over the past two years, the country has seen a surge in the use of synthetic drugs made of legal chemicals that mimic the dangerous effects of cocaine, amphetamines and other illegal stimulants. Some are imported cheaply from China or India.

The drugs are often sold at small, independent stores in misleading packaging that suggests common household items like bath salts, incense and plant food. But the substances are powerful, mind-altering drugs that have been linked to bizarre and violent behaviour across the country. Law-enforcement officials refer to the drugs collectively as "bath salts," though they have nothing in common with the toiletries.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

National security

Surveillance info no longer public

The curtains at Canada's most secretive federal agency have been drawn a little tighter.

The government has quietly stopped telling Canadians about the annual priorities of the national electronic eavesdropping agency, meaning scant details of its mission that were once made public are now classified.

Communications Security Establishment Canada, with headquarters in a non-descript building in Ottawa's south end, has the dual role of monitoring foreign computer, satellite, radio and telephone traffic, as well as helping protect federal computer systems. It has a staff of more than 2,000 and a budget of about $400 million.

For years, a section of the Defence Department's annual plans-and-priorities report spelled out the agency's priorities. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gun sales surge across U.S.

Colorado theatre massacre. While the shooting has stirred debate on gun control, Washington stays mum

Firearms sales are surging after last week's Colorado theatre massacre as buyers fear that politicians may use the shootings to seek new restrictions on owning weapons.

Some Democratic lawmakers in Congress cited the shooting as evidence of the need for tougher gun-control laws — particularly a ban on high-capacity ammunition magazines. Congress, however, hasn't passed strict legislation in more than a decade, and leaders in Washington show no sign of bringing up such measures anytime soon.

In Colorado, where Friday's shooting killed 12, gun sales jumped in the three days that followed. The state approved background checks for 2,887 people who wanted to purchase a firearm — 25 per cent more than the average Friday-to-Sunday period in 2012 and 43 per cent more than the same interval the week prior.

Dick Rutan, owner of Gunners Den in Arvada, Colo., said requests for concealed-weapon training certification "are off the hook." His course in gun safety, required for certification for a concealed-weapons permit in Colorado, has drawn double the interest since Friday.

"They want ... the ability to protect themselves and their families if they are in a situation like what happened in the movie theatre," Rutan said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Other parts of the U.S.

- **Florida.** Saw 2,386 background checks, up 14 per cent from a week prior.
- **Oregon.** Sales up 11 per cent over last month.
- **California.** Background checks up 10 per cent over last month.

Actor Christian Bale and his wife, Sibi Blazic, are seen Tuesday at a memorial dedicated to Veronica Moser-Sullivan, 6, the youngest of the 12 victims of Friday's mass shooting in Aurora, Colo. TED S. WARREN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eldest victim

First funeral held

A dad who took his teenage children to the new Batman movie and was killed when a gunman opened fire was mourned Wednesday, the first memorial service for a victim of the shooting.

Fifty-one-year-old Gordon Cowden was the oldest of the 12 people killed. His teenage children escaped unharmed.

A family statement described him as a "true Texas gentleman" who loved the outdoors and owned his own business.

Funerals were planned in towns from San Antonio, home of aspiring sportscaster Jessica Ghawi, to Crystal Lake, Ill., the hometown of navy intelligence officer John Thomas Larimer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

North Korea. Mystery woman wife of leader

North Korea ended weeks of speculation Wednesday by confirming that the mystery woman beside young leader Kim Jong Un at recent public events is indeed his wife, "comrade Ri Sol Ju." The news was buried in a state TV report about Kim's tour of an amusement park, delivered casually by a newscaster who gave no details about Ri, including how long she and Kim have been married.

Kim, who inherited rule of North Korea from his father, Kim Jong Il, seven months ago, has been seen with Ri at a concert, a kindergarten visit and other events recently, but state media did not mention her before now, fueling widespread speculation about her identity.

Analysts said the announcement was a calculated move by Kim and his advisers as they forge the image of the 20-something leader who took power following the December death of Kim Jong Il.

"Kim Jong Un is breaking with his father's secrecy-shrouded leadership," said Lim Eul-chul, a North Korea expert at South Korea's Kyungnam University. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ri Sol Ju, Kim Jong Un's wife.
KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY VIA KOREA NEWS SERVICE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

England. Boy flies to Rome without ticket, passport

The 11-year-old boy didn't have a passport, didn't have a ticket, didn't have a boarding pass and got all the way from England to Italy on his own.

For him, the 1,700-kilometre journey was a great adventure — and his excitement led to his discovery.

"He was chatting away about being off by himself," and passengers alerted the cabin crew, Russell Craig, a spokesman for Manchester Airport, said Wednesday.

The boy, who is known to be fascinated by transport and has a history of catching free rides on trains and buses, was sent back to Manchester on the return flight, Craig said.

For the airport, airline Jet2.com and the British government, Tuesday's incident was an embarrassing breach of security days before the start of the Olympics.

Quoted

"It's a security breach, if a non-threatening security breach."

Ben Vogel, HIS Jane's Airport Review

Ben Vogel, editor of HIS Jane's Airport Review, said he wasn't familiar with all the details of the incident but said it's a fundamental security principle that people aren't allowed aboard an aircraft if they have no right to be there.

"It's not good, is it?" he said. "It is a security breach, if a non-threatening security breach."

An undisclosed number of security staff employed by the airport and airline employees have been suspended while authorities investigate.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Montreal. Public funeral for Jun Lin held today

A public funeral will be held today for Jun Lin, whose slaying grabbed national attention after his body was dismembered and parts were mailed to two Canadian cities.

Concordia University spokeswoman Clea Desjardins says the service will be held at a Montreal funeral home.

Lin studied computer science at the university, which is helping raise funds for his family and is setting up an award in his memory.

A public memorial was held last weekend in which his anguished mother talked about how the tragedy had devastated the family.

Lin's dismembered torso was found May 29 stuffed in a suitcase that had been dumped in the trash outside a Montreal apartment building.

The same day, one of his feet was discovered in a package mailed to the Conservative party in Ottawa and a hand was found in another package in a Canada Post warehouse in the national capital.

His other hand and foot were discovered on June 5 in packages mailed to two Vancouver schools.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The suspect

- Luka Rocco Magnotta, a small-time porn actor, was arrested June 4 in Berlin after an international manhunt.
- He was extradited to Montreal on June 18 and charged with Lin's first-degree murder the next day. He has pleaded not guilty.

Loblaw to open 700 Joe Fresh stores in the U.S.

Grocery chain. Canadian brand announces partnership with U.S. retailer J.C. Penney as it ramps up its fashion line

Loblaw Companies Ltd. plans to unveil about 700 Joe Fresh stores in the U.S. next year as Canada's largest grocery chain works to ramp up sales of its hip fashion line to help bolster earnings that dropped by 19 per cent in its most recent quarter.

Loblaw's Joe Fresh clothing brand announced Wednesday it has formed a partnership with U.S. retailer J.C. Penney Co. to open 700 stores in the U.S. in 2013 that will run for four years.

The move comes amid a massive overhaul of Loblaw's information-technology and supply-chain software system that is set to cost the company billions.

The capital-intensive rollout, along with a hypercompetitive grocery market in Canada, has eaten into its bottom line.

Loblaw reported second-quarter net earnings of $159 million, or 56 cents per diluted share, down almost 19 per cent from the $197 million earned in the same period in 2011.

That missed analysts' calls for earnings of 62 cents per share by five cents.

Shares fell 1.5 per cent, or 47 cents, to close at $31.45 on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

"While I'm not happy that earnings are down, we are on plan," said Loblaw president Vicente Trius on a conference call Wednesday.

Revenue came in at $7.37 billion for the period ended June 16, an increase of 1.3 per cent from the $7.28 billion over the second quarter of 2011.

Retail sales and same-store sales grew 1.1 per cent and 0.2 per cent, respectively. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Across Canada

Loblaw, a subsidiary of George Weston Ltd., operates more than 1,000 stores across Canada under numerous banners, including Great Canadian Super Store, Provigo, No Frills and Atlantic Superstore.

- The company employs 138,000 full- and part-time workers.

Mountain Lion makes leap to Mac computers

A customer looks at the new OS X Mountain Lion operating system at an Apple store in Palo Alto, Calif., Wednesday. Apple Inc. released its new operating system for Mac computers on Wednesday, with features borrowed from mobile devices and a tighter integration with online file storage. The new software narrows the gap between the PC and phone software packages, making Mac personal computers work more like iPhones and iPads. PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Agriculture

Drought predicted to push food prices

The U.S. government is projecting the record drought gripping half the country will help push food prices up by three per cent to four per cent next year.

Figures released by the Department of Agriculture on Wednesday show that beef prices are expected to see the biggest jump at four per cent to five per cent.

Dairy product prices are expected to climb 3.5 per cent to 4.5 per cent. Poultry prices are expected to rise three per cent to four per cent. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 98.5¢ US (+0.5¢)

TSX 11,492.51 (+25.56)

OIL $88.97 US (+47¢)

GOLD $1,608.10 US (+$31.90)

Natural gas: $3.07 US (-11.7¢)
Dow Jones: 12,676.05 (+58.73)

Lawsuit. Disability-rights advocates sue Wal-Mart

Disability-rights advocates filed a federal lawsuit Wednesday against Wal-Mart Stores Inc., claiming the retail giant refuses to make payment machines accessible to customers who use wheelchairs and scooters.

The plaintiffs allege that Bentonville, Ark.-based Wal-Mart knowingly placed point-of-sale terminals beyond the reach of disabled customers at many of its more than 200 stores in California — in violation of state law and the U.S. Americans with Disabilities Act. The lack of accessible payment devices makes it difficult or impossible for disabled customers to independently pay for goods with a credit or debit card, according to the lawsuit. Many must ask cashiers to read the charges or enter their personal identification number. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In defence

Wal-Mart spokeswoman Ashley Hardie could not comment on the lawsuit itself, but she said the company is committed to serving customers with disabilities.

Oil. Industry minister to review $15B US Nexen bid

Canada's industry minister isn't dropping any hints about whether he will approve or reject a Chinese state-owned company's multibillion-dollar bid for Calgary-based Nexen Inc.

And just like Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Christian Paradis is warning Canadians not to jump to any conclusions about which way it will go.

Paradis says he'll wait until he reviews an application from China National Offshore Oil Company — also known as CNOOC Ltd. — before deciding whether to green-light the $15.1-billion US transaction.

CNOOC's proposed all-cash takeover of oil-and-gas producer Nexen was a friendly bid, offering shareholders a 60 per cent premium on their holdings. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The bottom line

"It has to be for the net benefit of this country. This is the bottom line here."

Industry Minister Christian Paradis on a Chinese company's bid for Nexen Inc.

Trade. Canada pushes for relations with Myanmar

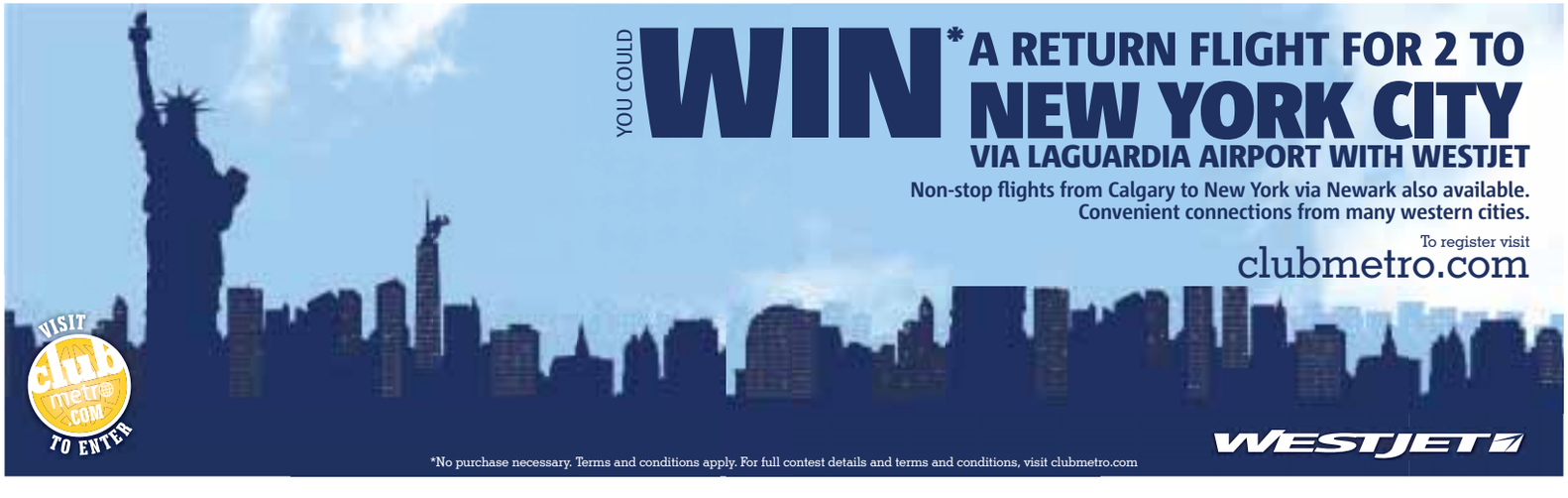
After years of imposing tough sanctions, Canada announced a push Wednesday to open up economic relations with Myanmar, saying International Trade Minister Ed Fast and a delegation of business leaders would travel to the strategically placed Southeast Asian nation in September.

Fast will be the first cabinet minister to visit the country since trade sanctions were eased at the end of April and Canada announced it would open an embassy in the capital, Rangoon, in recognition of Myanmar's moves to improve human rights and democracy.

However pro-democracy and human-rights groups are warning that Myanmar is still facing serious human-rights issues. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Closed door

Firms at a closed-door round table meeting in Toronto included Research in Motion, SNC-Lavalin, Bombardier and consulting firms Nextep Strategy Inc., Prudential Consulting Inc. and Deloitte.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A PREVIEW OF OLYMPIC PROPORTIONS

HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca/hesays

How will London cope this week as it's hit with pollution, traffic congestion and rabid media attention for the first time in history?

This and other questions will be answered as the Triple-X Olympiad officially gets underway Friday. We don't trust you to watch the right events and have the proper emotional reaction to them, so here's a list of the biggest storylines we demand you watch for.

Are they ready? The Olympics are home to some dependable traditions, and one of the most consistent is the Lamenting of the Games. Before every Olympics, the media make it sound like the runners will have their times slowed by wet cement and divers will be jumping into empty swimming pools, their falls broken by contractors desperately trying to get the host city ready.

In London, the biggest problem appears to be security, which was thrown into shambles when it was revealed that a key security firm didn't have enough people and was handing out sashes that said "hall monitor" to anybody who asked.

Now they've called in the army, because nothing makes people feel secure like soldiers in the streets.

If things work out, the media will call it a miracle of Olympic proportions. If things don't work out, the media will call it a catastrophe of Olympic proportions. (We're on tight deadlines.)

Open questions. The opening ceremony has become an important show of national pride for the host country. Can Britain's gymnasts and interpretive dancers do justice to Britain's food, emotion and weather? One organizer gave a tantalizing hint when he promised "more shades of grey than you've ever seen."

All-time record? If American swimmer Michael Phelps dominates, he'll become the most decorated Olympian ever. This will be a major embarrassment for Canada, because Phelps will surpass the total distance travelled by Canada's submarine fleet.

Hoop dreams. It promises to be a special moment when the world puts aside its differences, joins hands and prays for the humiliating defeat of the U.S. basketball team. The chance to cheer against Kobe Bryant and LeBron James simultaneously is rare and should be cherished.

Star watch. World-famous athletes won't be the only celebrities, as entertainment superstars descend on London including uber-couple Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie. Watch for North Korean athletes to wander near Jolie in hopes she'll adopt them.

Whither Canada? Sportswriters went all gooey during the Vancouver Games about how Canada had finally come of age — just like we did during Vimy Ridge, the Second World War, Expo '67, Summit Series '72 and that "Joe Canadian" Molson commercial. I thought that was mostly hooey because Canada won the most gold medals; it's easy to stand up loud and proud when you're winning. Since Canada doesn't do as well at the Summer Olympics, here's our big chance to reveal our true patriotism. Otherwise we're just Phoenix Coyotes fans on a playoff run.

That said, I trust we'll see lots of Canadians standing on the podium. Assuming it's constructed on time.

Britain's government opted Tuesday to deploy 1,200 more troops to protect Olympic venues, a move that reflects a lack of confidence in a private security contractor. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Travelling in London an Olympic sport?

CHARLIE RIEDEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Summer Games

VIP lanes, the Tube cause delays

Wednesday saw an uncertain test of the British capital's Olympic transport plan, as lanes reserved for Olympic VIPs came into force two days before the start of the Games and the city's creaky subway system struggled with glitches.

Traffic jams blocked some of the main routes into the city as the wildly unpopular "Games Lanes" took effect. The 48 kilometres of lanes are to operate from 6 a.m. to midnight throughout the Games, and cars or taxi cabs that stray into them face a $200 US fine.

Thousands of London drivers have switched to public transport, only to encounter severe delays on several underground subway lines caused by power-supply problems and signal failures. Severe delays were reported Wednesday on the city's Central and Hammersmith subway lines.

Transportation is London's weak spot: Traffic often clogs up on its narrow, historic roads, bus schedules can change at a moment's notice, and the famous Underground suffers from daily delays and infrastructure that in parts is more than a century old. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Criticism over designation

- The International Olympic Committee had specifically demanded VIP road lanes be created after learning lessons from previous Games.
- In London, some of the loudest opposition to the Olympic VIP lanes has come from the city's cabbies, who have staged two recent demonstrations that brought central London traffic to a standstill. They say being banned from Olympic lanes jeopardizes their business.

Hanging on a wire

Cable car stranded above Thames

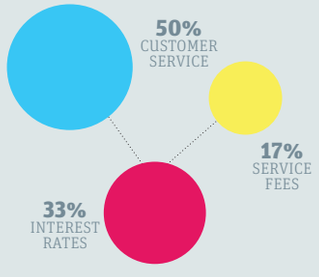
Cable-car passengers got plenty of time to view London's sights after the system linking two Olympic venues broke down and left them stranded above the River Thames Wednesday.

The cable-car system, dubbed the Emirates Air Line, opened last month and links the 02 Arena in Greenwich — which will host Olympic basketball and gymnastics — and the ExCel exhibition centre, where boxing will take place. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

What's the most important factor in choosing a bank?



Twitter

@djaniskevich: Had lunch downtown sandwiched between two great rides through #wascana ... Happy 50th Wascana Centre! #yqr #iloveregina

@kenzie_kulcsar: Downtown #yqr smells like mini doughnuts! #yesssss

@jsdudar: #YQR, you have a lovely plaza, especially when in use. Let's keep the traffic off 11th. #farmersmarket #sexydancers #diversity #walkabilty

@juatisask: 18yrs ago today my husband started working in Calgary because there was no work in Sask. Here we are,packing up and moving back to #yqr

@Emma_Vincenttt: I've missed regina, can't wait to have a ride in her, feel them speakers pumpin and tht crack crackin @Kendell_Beaney #regina #reggie

metro

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SCENE 2

On the web

TV's Sister Wives family challenges Utah bigamy law as unconstitutional

Movies with a view

Cinema Under the Stars runs into mid-August. COURTESY LEASA GIBBONS

Cinema Under the Stars. Regina Downtown BID hosts free movies, and partners up with local eateries to get your food delivered while you watch your flick

BACKSTAGE PASS
PAUL BOGDAN
regina@metronews.ca

Running into August, the Regina Downtown Business Improvement District (RDBID) is hosting Cinema Under the Stars on Wednesday evenings in Victoria Park.

"Cinema Under the Stars is a movie series that we run outdoors in Victoria Park. It is kind of a version of a drive-in without the cars," said Leasa Gibbons, RDBID manager of marketing and communications.

So far, they've shown everything from classics like the Wizard of Oz to new releases like The Lorax and The Muppets.

With the beautiful park, fantastic places to eat, and a variety of businesses, Gibbons says the outdoor theatre is a great excuse to explore the downtown.

"It's good for downtown in that we've got people down in the park who are there for a positive reason," said Gibbons.

"We have fantastic retailers. Of course, we've got great lawyers and service providers, banks and all those things. But we also have a fabulous space with Victoria Park and the City Square Plaza."

And since you may as well not bother with the movie if you don't have something tasty accompanying you on your cinematic journey, RDBID has partnered with some of the restaurants downtown so outdoor moviegoers can have food delivered right to their grassy seat in Victoria Park.

Menu items from local restaurants will be easily accessible — as simple as a call on your cellphone.

"Our Info On-The-Go team will go pick it up, and we'll bring it on site," said Gibbons.

Victoria Park

PotashCorp presents Cinema Under the Stars. Movies start around 9 p.m. (depending on when dusk arrives).

- **August 1 - Sci Fi/Comic Fan Favourite.** Preshow entertainment starting at 7:30 p.m. in Victoria Park with Zumbatonic by Loca Fitness, Friends of the Royal Saskatchewan Museum activities and Singer Kerri Senkow.
- **August 15 - Up!** Preshow entertainment starting at 7:30 p.m. in Victoria Park with Zumbatonic by Loca Fitness, Saskatchewan Science Centre activities and, again, singer Kerri Senkow.

NEED A RIDE?
Read metrodrive every Wednesday.

Love Community? NBC isn't sold on it

TV. At the Television Critics Association press tour, the struggling network said its focus is shifting to broader comedy

AMBER RAY
Metro World News

Is Crystal the Monkey on Animal Practice doing to save NBC? GETTY IMAGES

Can a monkey save NBC?

The network that routinely finishes last in ratings among the big four broadcast companies is in a state of transition, most obviously seen in its approach to comedy this fall.

Where NBC has been a haven for critically loved, cult-hit sitcoms that don't draw massive amounts of viewers, the network is now introducing comedies starring a lab-coat wearing monkey (Animal Practice) and babies raised by clueless, yet caring, dads (Guys with Kids.)

"We're going to transition with our comedy programming and … try to broaden the audience and broaden what the network does," Robert Greenblatt, chairman of NBC Entertainment, told journalists gathered at the Television Critics Association press tour in Beverly Hills, Calif., on Wednesday.

"Those Thursday comedies, which the critics love and we love, tend to be a bit more narrow than we'd ultimately like as we go forward."

Greenblatt was referring to shows like Parks and Recreation and 30 Rock, and more specifically, Community, which featured an entire episode that played out in the style of an 8-bit video game last season. Though all three were renewed for next season, as of late Community has received little love from NBC, which fired the show's creator, ordered only 13 episodes, and pushed the show back to Fridays.

"The reason that we did 13 episodes of that and a couple of our other shows is because we really wanted to get more comedies on the schedule … which isn't to say we couldn't decide at some point to extend those seasons," Greenblatt said. "I would love nothing more than Community to have a following on Friday and to be able to continue it."

NBC offering even that amount of support to a similarly quirky new series doesn't appear likely. Greenblatt called those creatively robust, yet ill-performing sitcoms "a little bit more sophisticated than I think you might want for a real broad audience."

And what says "mass appeal" better than animals and babies?

"We didn't sit down and say, 'Let's find some shows with babies and animals everywhere,' but we did buy into visions from creators that we felt were funny, specific, emotional and original," said Jennifer Salke, NBC president.

Kiefer Sutherland. 24 movie will get made, sooner rather than later

Kiefer Sutherland
GETTY IMAGES

Kiefer Sutherland says don't worry, Jack Bauer fans. That 24 movie will get made, sooner rather than later.

"Yeah, I don't want to do it with a cane," says the 45-year-old actor, who played the ruthless anti-terrorist agent Jack Bauer for eight seasons on the Fox action series.

Sutherland was at the Fox network's Television Critics Association summer press tour party Monday night to promote his latest series, Touch. It premiered last winter to good reviews but middle-of-the-pack ratings.

A script for the long-delayed 24 movie just wasn't ready in time for Sutherland to shoot it during the hiatus from Touch. Fox now has production penciled in for next spring.

Sutherland hopes his new series will be hard to schedule around for quite a while.

He enjoyed working on the 13-episode winter and spring run.

He felt the drama — about a father and his 11-year-old emotionally disturbed and mute son (played by David Mazouz) — was really hitting its creative stride by the end of that first season.

Executive producer Tim Kring (Heroes) says the stakes will be higher when the series returns this fall. Father and son will be on the run. A new character, played by Maria Bello (who starred last fall in the short-lived drama Prime Suspect), will join the cast, a move Sutherland could not be more excited about.

"She's phenomenal," he says. Bello will play a character with a child facing similar challenges. Conversations between the two struggling parents will help viewers understand things that were difficult to communicate and explain in season one, as Sutherland sees it.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Touch

Touch has struggled with ratings but Sutherland said he was happy that Fox was giving the show time to find its audience and connect the way 24 had done for Sutherland.

- **Big name.** At least one other big name is being added to the cast. Sutherland told reporters it was too early to announce just who that was, but the name being bandied about "is pretty exciting," he says.

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Pattinson talks cheating

Robert Pattinson. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Robert Pattinson obviously won't be releasing a statement — he'll let some pretty young blond do the talking next week. So for now, all we've got is his April chat in Vanity Fair, where he conveniently discussed affairs.

"There's a thing I've never got: That is, why do people cheat? I can understand the impulse," he says.

"But not how you can keep two relationships going at the same time for long. I'm not the casual-affair kind of guy. If I choose to be with someone, it's because I really want it. When I have a relationship, I'm 100 per cent into it."

Rupert Sanders

Sanders' wife not warned

Not to be outdone, Rupert Sanders issued his own apology shortly after Stewart.

"I am utterly distraught about the pain I have caused my family," the director said in a statement. "My beautiful wife and heavenly children are all I have in this world. I love them with all my heart. I am praying that we can get through this together."

As for Sanders' wife, Liberty Ross, we doubt she's accepting the apology anytime soon. The British model seemed to learn about the affair along with everyone else yesterday, and proceeded to have a mini Twitter meltdown.

Before deactivating her account, she followed @Us Weekly and tweeted quotes from Marilyn Monroe and Maya Angelou, then signed off with a simple "Wow" — the 2012 equivalent of waking up to the Love Actually DVD menu in a puddle of Ben and Jerry's.

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Kristen Stewart 'deeply sorry' about affair

MONICA WEYMOUTH
scene@metronews.ca

We always blamed Kristen Stewart's ever-present pout on her distaste for photographers. Maybe an extra weird rash. Possibly a Spanx situation. But we never suspected that the problem could be Robert Pattinson, her much more photogenic boyfriend and Twilight co-star.

It seems, however, that while Stewart's been parading down red carpets with Pattinson, she's also been having a fling with Rupert Sanders, her married Snow White and the Huntsman director.

Us Weekly has pretty incriminating photographs of the two snuggled up to each other in Los Angeles on July 17, just a few days before Stewart and Pattinson attended the Teen Choice Awards together.

Witnesses tell RadarOnline that Sanders, 41, and Stewart, 22, "were hardly able to keep their hands off one another," as they drove around L.A., stopping occasionally to make out in parking lots.

Kristen, what do you have to say for yourself?

"I'm deeply sorry for the hurt and embarrassment I've caused to those close to me and everyone this has affected," she said in a statement released yesterday.

"This momentary indiscretion has jeopardized the most important thing in my life, the person I love and respect the most, Rob. I love him, I love him, I'm so sorry."

Kris, take it from us: Making creepy, inappropriate public appeals to Robert Pattinson in the gossip columns doesn't work. We've been trying for years, and he doesn't bite.

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LIFE 3

On the Web

Abby Larson, editor and founder of the stylish wedding website, on making your celebration Pinterest gold.

Retro-inspired looks were seen throughout the Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Swim 2013 in Miami Beach, where more than two dozen designers showcased their latest collections. Swimstyle specialists took a nod from days gone by, from high waist briefs and the pinup girl look of the 1950s to the Studio 54 and Dolce Vita eras of the '60s and '70s. Dive right in!

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Splash from the past

WHITE SANDS AUSTRALIA

Romantic looks were seen on the runway at White Sands Australia. "It's very, very girly," said designer Leah Madden. "I always try to do things very pretty but sexy and with an edge. But this year it's more pretty and more feminine."

Madden kept it simple for The Violet Hour collection. She used touches of ruffles, neon pastel colours (green) and a vintage floral print with large violets over a white palette to create the blissful looks.

DOLORES CORTES

Miami Beach was the inspiration for Spanish designer Dolores Cortes, who used vitamin colours and a touch of neon in her sophisticated collection.

Golden reflective laminates were superimposed on some pieces, while others had a mix of animal prints and bright stains to give the wild yet chic look. There were a ton of prints, some with a tie-dye effect. Bikinis included a multi-coloured bandeau top with an animal print bottom. Multiple patterns took over a one-piece and a monikini with bright pops of colour, and crochet and mesh also made appearances.

LISA BLUE

Kicking off swim week was the Lisa Blue collection, where Australian designer Lisa Burke featured a collection of very different styles.

The Enchantress collection opened the show with a white monokini with gold trimmings. The blue colour of the ocean was also seen on the goddess-like models walking slowly — enchantedly — down the runway.

Karina Smirnoff of Dancing with the Stars picked up the pace as she danced in a bright pink, ruffled-top bikini and a Flamenco-style long skirt for the second Flamenco-inspired collection, which included a one-shoulder bikini top with ruffles on the bottom piece.

NICOLITA

The Nicolita collection can be described as a collection of sexy swimwear with curve-flattering styles reminiscent of Cuba's alluring 1940s era — but with a California twist.

The Havana Nights Collection by designer Nicole Di Rocco drew inspiration from her Cuban roots and experiences in Malibu with the help of singer Christina Milian, who said finding the right fabrics was more difficult than she had expected.

The collection had plenty of coverups that can transition from day to night, including a short layered animal-print skirt and high waisted blue pants.

ALL PHOTOS: J PAT CARTER / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AGUA BENDITA

Cropped jackets with military hardware or maritime accents were part of the Lovely Heroes collection for Agua Bendita. Designers Catalina Alvarez and Mariana Hinestroza wanted to pay homage to the 700 men and women who work on each of the hand-made garments in Colombia.

The collection included military, maritime, cowboy and neon-inspired styles that were embellished with beads, appliques and sequins. The AB logo was emblazoned on the espadrilles the models wore and a hot pink plastic handbag that opened the show.

RED CARTER

The story of Red Carter's life and recent move from Miami to New York City inspired his latest collection, which included shiny disco balls and chunky geometric heels.

The art deco looks included black and white pieces in architectural shapes and a hint of vintage feeling with geometric hairstyles. There was a tangerine deep-V ruffle one-piece and art deco-inspired demi-underwire and skirted hipster bottom. Many had hints of glitter or gold such as in the black and white "glitter bomb" monikini.

The second part, the "Brazilesque with disco balls" looks included a safari bandeau and hipster bottom, a black handkerchief bandeau and safari hipster bottom.

A prescription for chocoholics

Cookbook authors Julie Albert and Lisa Gnat spend a lot of time in the kitchen creating and testing recipes, but they also like to be pampered by their families.

These Rx Brownies With Fudge Frosting are great for when you want to sit back and get the little ones involved.

The decadent brownies, found in Bite Me, are a prescription for any chocoholic, say Albert and Gnat. They would make an ideal treat to cap a brunch or any time you need a chocolate fix.

1. Heat oven to 180 C (350 F). Coat a 33-by-23-cm (13-by-9-inch) baking pan with non-stick cooking spray. Line with parchment paper.

2. For the brownies, in a microwave safe bowl, combine chocolate and butter. Melt on high heat for 1 minute, stir and melt for 30 seconds more or until chocolate and butter are melted and smooth.

3. In a large bowl, whisk sugar and eggs. Add chocolate mixture and flour, stirring until flour has disappeared. Spread in prepared pan and bake for 25 to 30 minutes. Let cool in pan for 15 minutes before removing. Cool completely on wire rack before frosting.

4. Frosting: In a large saucepan, mix together sugar, cocoa powder, milk, butter and corn syrup. Heat to boiling, stirring frequently. Boil for 3 minutes, stirring constantly. Let cool for 10 minutes. Whisk in icing sugar until smooth.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/BITE ME TOO BY JULIE ALBERT AND LISA GNAT

Ingredients

- 4 squares unsweetened chocolate, chopped
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) butter
- 500 ml (2 cups) sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 250 ml (1 cup) flour

Fudge Frosting

- 125 ml (1/2 cup) sugar
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) cocoa powder, sifted
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) milk
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) butter
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) corn syrup
- 250 ml (1 cup) icing sugar

Rx Brownies With Fudge Frosting

This recipe is ideal for a post-brunch dessert. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Book of the week

Take a bite out of easy & fun food

Having fun with food, family and friends is the focus of the cookbook Bite Me Too by sisters Julie Albert and Lisa Gnat.

The release is peppered with humour, trivia, pop culture references and user-friendly recipes that feature ingredients you have in your pantry or that can be picked up during your regular grocery store run.

Chapter headings in Bite Me Too include Amuse Me (appetizers), Fowl Me (poultry), Hook Me (fish and seafood) and Toss Me (salads). There are 176 recipes in total. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Keep cool while looking cool

DIY ideas. Cooling units are summer lifesavers, but they're also an eyesore. Make your own cover using these tips

The summer heat has likely got your air conditioning unit operating at full tilt. Although you may be enjoying the cooling effect it's bringing to the inside of your home, you may not appreciate the eyesore it's created on the outside.

Jason Cameron transforms troubled yards on DIY Network's Desperate Landscapes. Read on to learn Jason's approach to concealing an outdoor air conditioning unit and never worry what your neighbours are thinking about your yard again.

Gather materials

A decorative lattice screen provides the ultimate disguise for outdoor air conditioning units.

To get started, gather the necessary materials, such as cedar planks (recommended for their weather resistance), four pressure-treated 4-x-4 posts, wood stakes, braces, landscaping fabric, granite, architectural-grade lattice, cement, a saw, hand tamper, staple gun, shovel and screws.

Set the base

Ensure the area being screened is level. Hammer in stakes to mark the perimeter and place the cedar planks against the stakes to mark a simple frame.

Remember to factor in sufficient clearance to allow for proper airflow and servicing; a good rule of thumb is to clear an area double the size of the air conditioner you wish to hide.

Secure landscaping fabric inside the frame to prevent weeds from growing. Pour granite overtop until it is about two inches thick and rake until level. Wet the surface to set the granite and then pack it down with a hand tamper.

Build the frame

Cut the corner posts to the desired height with a sharp handsaw. Dig holes for the posts, about two feet deep, to allow enough room for the concrete. Set the posts in the holes and secure temporarily with braces.

Once the posts are level, pour cement into the holes. Let the concrete set overnight before removing the braces. Measure between each set of posts and cut the cedar planks to fit between them to form a bottom rail. Slide the rails into place and screw them to the posts. Cap the top of the posts with a top rail; cut each end of the top rail at a 45-degree angle and secure with screws.

Install the lattice

Cut the lattice with a circular saw so it fits between the posts and top and bottom rails. Use a staple gun to attach the lattice to hold it in place. Planting shrubs around the screen will help to further soften the look.

DESPERATE LANDSCAPES AIRS WEEKNIGHTS AT 7:30 P.M. ET/4:30 P.M. PT ON DIY NETWORK CANADA

Ernie Els speaks at a press conference next to the Claret Jug trophy Wednesday at the Hamilton Golf and County Club in Ancaster, Ont. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Els hopes to add to his trophy haul

Golf. British Open winner has had little time to practise ahead of Canadian Open

Ernie Els arrived at the RBC Canadian Open with one trophy already in tow. He's hoping to leave with another.

Despite a whirlwind couple days that followed his victory at the British Open, Els expressed confidence that he's still got enough left in the tank to be competitive at the third-oldest championship in golf.

"I feel very fresh," he said Wednesday afternoon.

Els only managed to get in five practice holes at Hamilton Golf and Country Club this week, but thinks his stellar play from Royal Lytham and St. Annes should carry over.

The celebration following his fourth major championship was more low key than the ones that came before it. After pulling out a one-shot victory over Adam Scott on Sunday, he returned home to London for a small party with family and friends, then had a lazy Monday.

He travelled to Hamilton, Ont., on Tuesday morning, getting in a quick practice session before a helicopter arrived to whisk him to downtown Toronto for a "Right to Play" dinner. On Wednesday, Els played a round with RBC CEO Gord Nixon at his home course.

The itinerary left virtually no time for preparation at the charming, tree-lined Hamilton layout that is hosting the Canadian Open for a fifth time.

"I don't know if it's such a big disadvantage because a lot of times when you don't play a course, you don't know where the trouble is," Els said with a chuckle. "So maybe that's a good thing. You get your yardage, you hit it to your spots."

As an added bonus, the South African brought the Claret Jug along for the ride and proudly displayed it during his interview session with reporters Wednesday. His presence added some buzz to an event that remains in a tough spot on the PGA Tour's calendar. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Taking part

- Besides Els, the biggest names in the field are Matt Kuchar, Hunter Mahan and Jim Furyk — and it's no coincidence that all four have sponsorship agreements with RBC.
- But Furyk said he was also drawn back by the traditional H.S. Colt-designed course where he won the first of his two Canadian Open titles in 2006.

NHL

Bettman lays out league's proposal

Donald Fehr and the NHL players have a little more to mull over.

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman said the league tabled the remaining elements of its opening contract offer to the NHL Players' Association on Wednesday. It was an expansion on the opening proposal the league delivered July 13, which included a decreased share of hockey-related revenue, term limits on contracts and a 22 per cent salary rollback. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gary Bettman GETTY IMAGES FILE

MLB

Arencibia breaks hand, expected to miss six weeks

Toronto Blue Jays catcher JP Arencibia is expected to miss about six weeks after fracturing his right hand in the second inning of Wednesday's game against the Oakland A's.

Arencibia appeared to injure the hand on a foul ball by Brandon Inge during Oakland's eight-run inning.

The 26-year-old finished the inning behind the plate but Jeff Mathis batted for him in the bottom of the second.

Arencibia is batting .242 with 16 homers and 50 RBIs so far this season.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mobile sports

A day after matching the Philadelphia Flyers' $110-million US offer sheet for Shea Weber, the Nashville Predators were in celebration mode. But "the biggest signing in franchise history" for Nashville has forced the Flyers back to the drawing board. Scan the code for the story.

MLB. Cal Ripken Jr.'s mom safe after abduction

Cal Ripken Jr.'s 74-year-old mother was found with her hands bound in the back seat of her car Wednesday after being kidnapped at gunpoint a day earlier at her home outside Baltimore and driven around blindfolded by her abductor, police and neighbours said.

Investigators do not know the kidnapper's motive and there was no ransom demand for Vi Ripken's release, Aberdeen police Chief Henry Trabert said at a news conference.

The gunman forced Ripken into her silver Lincoln Continental between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. Tuesday, police said. She was found bound and unharmed but shaken at about 6:15 a.m. Wednesday near her home in Aberdeen, about 48 kilometres northeast of Baltimore.

Asked if police believe the kidnapper knew who he was abducting, Trabert did not answer, saying police don't know the motive or if the suspect has any ties to the Ripken family. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"He lit cigarettes for her, they stopped for food."

Vi Ripken's next-door neighbour Gus Kowaleski, who added that she said the gunman told her he would not hurt her

MLB

Phillies, Hamels agree to deal

Cole Hamels and the Philadelphia Phillies have agreed to a $144-million US, six-year contract that prevents the 2008 World Series MVP from becoming a free agent after the season.

A source told The Associated Press about the deal on condition of anonymity because there has been no official announcement.

It's the second-largest contract for a pitcher behind the $161-million deal the New York Yankees gave CC Sabathia in December 2008.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB. Miami sends Hanley Ramirez to L.A.

The Marlins are trading stars, just like they did following their championships in 2003 and 2007. Team president David Samson says this exodus is different.

"A fire sale, I guess, comes after a World Series victory," he said Wednesday. "I don't know how you would call it a fire sale to trade players of a team that's underperforming so spectacularly. We are just doing everything we can to win more games."

Former NL batting champion Hanley Ramirez became the latest player to leave, traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers with left-handed reliever Randy Choate for right-hander Nathan Eovaldi and minor-league pitcher Scott McGough.

On Monday, the Marlins sent pitcher Anibal Sanchez and infielder Omar Infante to the Detroit Tigers for pitching prospect Jacob Turner and two minor leaguers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hanley Ramirez GETTY IMAGES FILE

Canada can't keep up with world champs in opener

Canada's Carmelina Moscato heads the ball against Japan's Yuki Ogimi on Wednesday in Coventry. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Soccer. Coach Herdman calls loss to Japan a learning experience

Canada's women's soccer team opened its London Olympic campaign with a 2-1 loss to Japan on Wednesday, a result that left coach John Herdman "scratching one side" of his head and "feeling OK on the other."

Melissa Tancredi scored the lone goal for the No. 7 Canadians, who managed to battle back against the reigning World Cup champion. Japan took a 2-0 lead into halftime and had the Canadians on their heels most of the night.

"We knew it was going to be a tough game tonight; they're world champions and world champions for a reason," Herdman said afterward.

"But it's the first game in the tournament, there's another five to go for us hopefully, and I think we've learned some lessons tonight."

The game marked Canada's first competition of the Games, two days before the opening ceremonies in London.

The Canadians need to finish top-two in their pool — or be one of the two best third-place teams — to advance to the quarter-finals of the 12-team tournament.

The Japanese squad that shocked the United States to win the World Cup last summer lived up to its billing, passing and moving with speed and precision.

"They're quick, they're crafty, they get in those tight little spaces that you don't think they can get into," said defender Lauren Sesselmann. "They're an incredible team."

Nahomi Kawasumi and team captain Aya Miyama scored for Japan.

Kawasumi sprinted onto a clever back-heel pass from Shinobu Ohno in the 33rd minute. Miyama scored on a header from a cross in the 44th minute to beat Canadian goalkeeper Erin McLeod.

Tancredi capitalized on the one really decent shot Canada had, connecting on a cross from Rhian Wilkinson in the 55th minute. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flag-raising. Canada welcomed to Olympics

A medieval pageant with a 20th-century Queen soundtrack marked Canada's flag-raising and official welcome to the Olympic athletes' village in London.

With just over 200 nations competing in the 2012 Summer Games, countries had to be welcomed in batches. The Maple Leaf's introduction to the central plaza Wednesday evening was accompanied by flags raised from Portugal, Morocco, Monaco and Serbia.

Britain's National Youth Theatre set the scene of a quirky court. Dressed in colourful jester garb, they cartwheeled and rode bikes down the plaza. They were followed by athletes and officials from all five countries.

Mark Tewksbury, the Canadian chef de mission for London, is seen during the official flag-raising ceremony on Wednesday. COC/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"This is my first Olympics, so I didn't know what to expect, but it was full of energy," said Vancouver swimmer Blake Worsley.

A representative from each country was summoned to the stage to meet the village deputy mayor, British Olympic swimmer Duncan Goodhew, before the country's anthem played.

Canadian chef de mission Mark Tewksbury introduced himself to Goodhew as a fellow swimmer. They are of different Olympic eras. Goodhew won his gold in 1980, while Tewksbury's came in 1992.

The half-hour flag-raising ceremony, attended by Canada's Gov. Gen. David Johnston, provided pomp and ceremony for the Canadian athletes who won't participate in the opening ceremony Friday at Olympic Stadium.

The athletes' village at Olympic Park in London's East End is massive and will house 16,000 residents at its peak. Canada's quarters sit on the east end of the park.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Canadian cyclist Ryder Hesjedal arrives at St. Pancras King's Cross train station in London on Wednesday.
FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ryder Hesjedal's 'one-man show' arrives in London

Ryder Hesjedal arrived at the Olympics to a crowd Wednesday. But the Giro d'Italia winner will largely be on his own Saturday in the men's road race.

While world champion Mark Cavendish can rely on the help of four British teammates, the 31-year-old from Victoria will be going it alone as Canada did not collect enough points to qualify any other riders.

But the focus was on Hesjedal on Wednesday as he walked into a Canadian media crush at St. Pancras International after getting off a train from Europe.

The six-foot-two, 159-pound Hesjedal arrived wheeling one of his own Cervelo bikes, neatly packaged in a giant canvas bag. His other rides had been shipped ahead of time.

The laid-back Hesjedal, under the spotlight at his third Olympics, did his best to take all the attention in stride.

"It's exciting. This is a little overwhelming," said the former mountain biker. "But I've been training and focusing on this event. We'll see how I do Saturday and following in the time trial."

Hesjedal had fellow Canadians Michael Barry and Svein Tuft on his side at the 2008 Games road race in Beijing, where Barry was eighth, Hesjedal 55th and Tuft 58th. But he will have to look to others to help him this time.

This time he is, in his words, "a one-man show." A good scenario for him is being part of a small group that breaks away from the field early.

"I can ride with a small group and there won't be many guys with teammates at that point," he said.

But if the peleton catches that breakway group, the race will likely come down to a contest among sprinters like Cavendish. The British sprinter won a shorter test event last summer and has the advantage of a British team that features Sky teammates Bradley Wiggins and Chris Froome.

Wiggins and Froome went 1-2 in the Tour de France but Wiggins was not averse to helping play lead-up man for Cavendish, who can be as sharp with his tongue as he is fast on his bike.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"They've clearly shown how strong they are. They're going to take the initiative, they're going to control the race. So it will be everyone against them."

Ryder Hesjedal on the British cycling team led by Mark Cavendish and Tour de France winner Bradley Wiggins

Doping

Nine banned as Games approach

Nine track athletes were suspended ahead of the London Olympics for doping, including three who were caught in retests of samples from last year's world championships, the IAAF said Wednesday.

The governing body said six were caught in biological passport tests, which measure changes in an athlete's blood profile. The others were sanctioned after retroactive testing of blood and urine samples from the worlds in Daegu, South Korea.

Eight of the athletes received two-year suspensions, while one was handed a four-year ban.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Swimming

"We're a lot more laid back this time around, not only myself but as a team."

Fourteen-time gold medallist Michael Phelps on the U.S. swim team's outlook ahead of Olympic competition

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You can be pretty stubborn when the mood takes you and it is likely to take you today. You may discover though that you are not the only one who knows how to dig in their heels.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
No amount of compromise will work today, so be ready to fight for what you believe in. When it comes to willpower, you have more than most but a rival may not be as weak as they look.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Different people see things in different ways and if you can accept that, you won't have too many problems today. But if you insist the world agrees with you then you could find yourself in a lonely place.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Make sure you keep a sense of perspective over the next 24 hours, especially where money is concerned. What you own and earn is important, of course, but cash can't buy you the kind of love that you crave.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You can't help but be assertive and ambitious but don't go to extremes and start making the kind of demands of other people that you would never accept for yourself. You need more friends, not more enemies.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You seem to be asking yourself a lot of serious questions of late, but are you getting any intelligent answers? If not, maybe you should loosen up a bit and not take life so seriously – then the answers will come.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
If you go back on a promise today, you will regret it later. You must live up to your obligations, at home and at work because if you don't, you will let everyone down — including yourself.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
What happens today may shock you but you should have seen it coming. Also, it's unlikely to be as bad as you think, so don't overreact. What changes cannot be unchanged, no matter how forceful you may be.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
After being kept out of the loop for so long, you will discover what has been going on. It's unlikely to be as bad as you feared. It may even be good if you choose to take a long-term outlook.

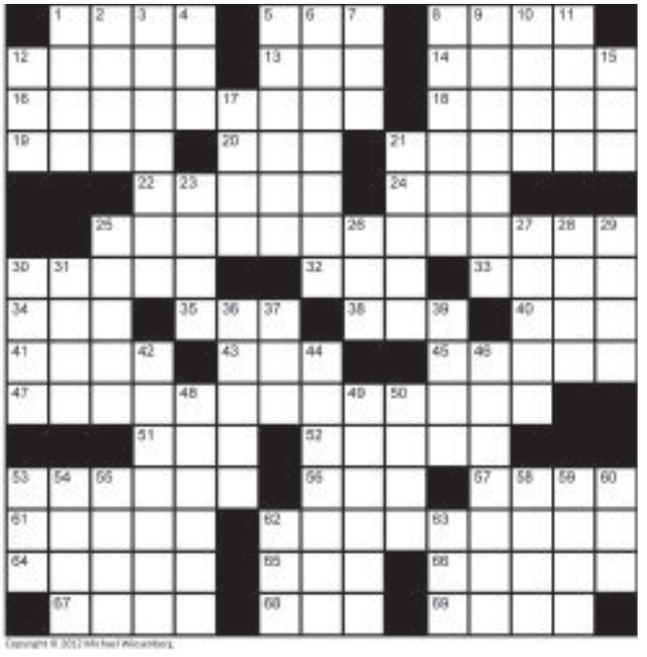
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Mind planet Mercury united with Pluto today suggests you need to take a more positive view of what's going on in the world. It's not all doom and gloom you know, in fact there are marvels in every direction.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Conflict of one kind or another is inevitable today and although that may not sound like very good news it has to happen. Only when the air is cleared can you all start to breathe more easily.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
The pressure has been cranking up for quite some time and over the next few days it may even become intolerable. But you are tougher than you look and will rise to the challenge. Give it your all. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Prime Ministers

BY MICHAEL WIESENBERG



Across
1. Prime Minister Chrétien
5. Where to find *The Sopranos*
8. Most common first name among Canadian PMs
12. Desperado chasers
13. Tax return rvw.
14. *Das Boot* setting
16. See 62-Across
18. Atoll explosion
19. Old dagger
20. It flows from Alberta
21. Mountainous regions of planets
22. Like some flowers
24. ___ de Cologne
25. Prime Minister April 20, 1968-June 4, 1979 and March 3, 1980-June 30, 1984
30. Surrounded by
32. Legal matter
33. Montréal, Québec, Maritimes locale
34. ___ Vegas
35. California Bay Area's largest airport, for short
38. Some in Québec
40. Letters ending an email or texted request
41. IMO cousin
43. Her: Ger.
45. Swimming (in)
47. First Prime Minister born after Confederation and only one to represent a Manitoba riding
51. Switch positions
52. Immune system component
53. Third Prime Minister, June 16, 1891-November 24, 1892
56. "Am __ trouble!"
57. Cowardly Lion player
61. "Mea ___": "my fault"
62. With 16-Across, second Prime Minister, November 7, 1873-October 8, 1878
64. First Radiohead single
65. Choice word
66. Prime Minister St. Laurent
67. Ill-mannered
68. 33-Acr. summer
69. Stuns

Down
1. ___ of Arc
2. Action-denoting suffix
3. Showed hospitality at the door
4. Born
5. Less clear
6. Manufacturer
7. "___ to Joy"
8. Alaska capital
9. Force (upon)
10. Certain gardener
11. US space gp.
12. In short, they served Canada
15. Sporty Audis
17. Film genre
21. To the point
23. Brief bylaws
25. Affirm
26. United spinoff
27. "___ apple every day to keep the doctor away"
28. Garage sale stipulation
29. Zion's locale
30. James Bond's *Octopussy* car, informally
31. Bryn ___ College: women's liberal arts college near Philadelphia
36. Premier
37. Electrical-impedance unit whose symbol is an omega
39. Satirist Mort
42. Cried "Yee-haw!"
44. Changed the bathroom decor
46. "What have we here?"
48. Open a package, maybe
49. Most freezing
50. '70s babies are part of this
53. USC : Pac 10 :: UNC : ___
54. New Westminster, BC-born Mason portrayer
55. Blue in Québec
58. ___ chori: for two voices, musically
59. "We have met the enemy and ___ us": Pogo quote
60. Monopoly utils.
62. Yes
63. In the manner of

Yesterday's crossword

What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

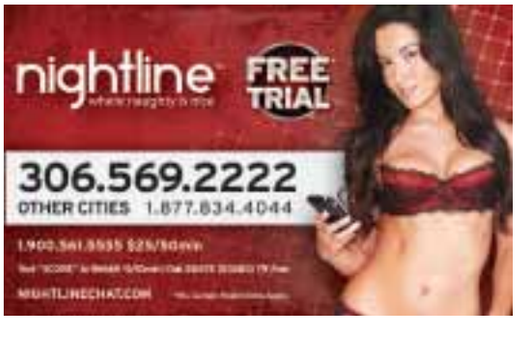
			5		6	8		1
4	9		2					7
					3			
	5	8	7				1	4
7	4				2	3	5	
			1					
2					8		7	6
5		3	6		4			

Yesterday's Sudoku

2	8	1	5	7	4	9	3	6
9	5	6	1	3	8	7	2	4
4	3	7	2	9	6	8	1	5
7	2	5	3	1	9	6	4	8
6	1	3	4	8	7	5	9	2
8	9	4	6	5	2	1	7	3
1	4	8	7	6	3	2	5	9
5	6	2	9	4	1	3	8	7
3	7	9	8	2	5	4	6	1

Sharability

easy — hard



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